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during my training in a large maternity ward, and in three or four cases on private duty, I have found these shields very useful. They can be made thoroughly aseptic by simple boiling, are easily scoured and cleaned. I have found them obtainable at almost every drugstore, and have usually paid fifty cents a pair for them. They may be held in place by a little band, and are worn only between nursings.

Dr. DeLee, in his *Obstetrics For Nurses*, says, "The theory is that the lactic acid in the milk acts on the lead, and the nipple is bathed continuously in a sort of lead water application. This explanation has been questioned, but the fact remains that the little appliance is very successful in curing cracked and ulcerated nipples." In connection with the lead shield I have used the glass nipple shield during nursing, only just so long as the nipple was too sore to allow the baby to nurse from it directly.

This is a simple, not costly and clean device, and very effective.

*Wisconsin.*

E. K. D.

#### A REMEDY FOR CHAFING, AND A WARNING

DEAR EDITOR: I happened to be in a family recently where the three and a half year old boy was desperately ill, and a beautiful, healthy, but very fat baby of nine months had not quite so much attention as usual. After a few warm days, and before anyone realized it, his buttocks and the creases in the groins became perfectly raw, and part of the time bled. We used every precaution, trying not to let him be wet at all and using all the different powders and mixtures of salve and powder that I could think of, but with no improvement whatever. One day I made a mixture of lycopodium powder and pure oxide of zinc, equal parts, and it practically healed over night. In twenty-four hours the skin was not even red. I had tried each of these alone, but the lycopodium has no medicinal quality, and the oxide of zinc alone just made a paste that rolled up in balls, as there was so much exudate there, but together, the powder was drying and the oxide of zinc healing.

Another experience I had might be of help to others. I was assisting at an operation in the country where the house was lighted by gasoline lights. It was at night, and as ether could not be used, on account of its inflammable qualities, the anesthetist gave chloroform. It was very well given, and not more used than was absolutely necessary, but we soon felt a terrible choking sensation in our throats and had the doors opened to relieve it. Everything seemed favorable for the patient at first, but the next day he showed signs of nephritis, and died on the third day. We found out later that the combination of the two gases forms a very poisonous gas, which is heavy, so we did not notice it till it had gotten up to our level.

*Maryland.*

S. M. T.

#### CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

DEAR EDITOR: I inclose a clipping sent me by a Massachusetts nurse (the clipping is headed: "Didn't learn enough by mail. No correspondence school graduates who took state veterinary examinations last year were allowed to practice.") to show you that even the veterinary surgeons are fighting the correspondence schools. It does not seem to me that we, as nurses, are doing enough to fight the correspondence schools of nursing. I, personally, have sent protests to